

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

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FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9805

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS UNN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EEC, GR, PFOR, ETRD

SUBJECT: RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN GREEK-EC RELATIONS

REF: (A) ATHENS 4927; (B)EC BRUSSELS 5178

1. THE GREEK-EC ASSOCIATION COUNCIL MET IN ATHENS JULY 28 FOR FIRST TIME SINCE THE GREATY OF ATHENS WAS SIGNED, AND ALMOST EXACTLY ONE YEAR AFTER THE COLLAPSE OF THE JUNTA. THE EC DELEGATION WAS HEADED BY EC COUNCIL PRESIDENT RUMOR, THE ITALIAN FOREIGN MINISTER. GREEK COORDINATION MINISTER PAPALIGOURAS CHAIRED THE MINISTERIAL LEVEL TALKS. BOTH PRESIDENT TSATSOS AND PM CARAMANLIS MET WITHTHE DELEGATES,
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THE PRIME MINISTE TAKING THE OPPORTUNITY TO ONCE AGAIN

EMPHASIZE THE POLITICAL IMPORTANCE OF EARLY MEMBERSHIP TO GREECE, AND GREECE'S DEDICATION TO THE CONCEPT OF EUROPEAN UNITY.

2. THE COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS FOCUSED, AS ANTICIPATED, ON GREECE'S APPLICATION FOR EARLY MEMBERSHIP, PROBLEMS RELATED TO THE HARMONIZATION OF GREEK AGRICULTURE, AND THE SECOND FINANCIAL PROTOCOL. CONCRETE RESULTS WERE VERY LIMITED. THE EC DELEGATION MEMBERS AGREED THAT EFFORTS TO PAVE THE WAY FOR AGRICULTURAL HARMONIZATION SHOULD BE INTENSIFIED, BUT WERE SOMEWHAT MORE RESTRAINED ON THE QUESTION OF THE SECOND FINANCIAL PROTOCOL, INDICATING THAT THE ASSOCIATION COUNCIL WOULD BE BETTER ABLE TO DISCUSS THE PROTOCOL AFTER THE EC COUNCIL OF MINISTERS HAS STUDIED THE SUBJECT (PROBABLY BEGINNING IN SEPTEMBER).

3. THE MEETING'S PRIMARY ACCOMPLISHMENT WAS TO ONCE AGAIN DEMONSTRATE THE EC'S FAVORABLE DISPOSITION TOWARDS GREECE. MOREOVER, IT PROVIDED GOG LEADERSHIP WITH OCCASION TO ENGAGE IN SOME HIGH-LEVEL PERSONAL DIPLOMACY TO PROMOTE GREEK VIEWPOINT ON EARLY MEMBERSHIP AND OTHER QUESTIONS.
KUBISCH

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